

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 063747

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TAGS: CH,XETRD

SUBJECT: U.S.-PRC TRADE STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY

REF: STATE 30316

FEBRUARY CUMULATIVE THRU FEBRUARY

1. U.S. EXPORTS - \$77.9 MILLION	\$220.9 MILLION
U.S. IMPORTS - \$ 7.6 MILLION	\$ 13.1 MILLION

2. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT U.S. EXPORTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
WHEAT-3.8 MILLION BUSHEL(\$11.7 MILLION); CORN-
6.5 MILLION BUSHEL(\$18.3 MILLION); SOYBEANS-1.9 MILLION
BUSHEL(\$10.5 MILLION); COTTON-63,004 RUNNING BALES
(\$13.7 MILLION); ONE AIRPLANE(\$11.3 MILLION); TOBACCO-
1 MILLION POUNDS(\$1.2 MILLION); ENGINES AND TURBINES
(\$1.0 MILLION); TALLOW(\$2.6 MILLION); AND IRON AND
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PAGE 02 STATE 063747

STEEL SCRAP-75,000 SHORT TONS(\$5.3 MILLION).

3. THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NOW ESTIMATES THAT THE AMOUNT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TRANSHIPPED THRU CANADA(SEE REFTEL) TOTALLED \$50.6 MILLION IN CALENDAR 1973. THE QUANTITIES TRANSHIPPED ARE GIVEN BELOW; THE VALUES (IN PARENTHESES ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE THAT APPLIED TO THE ACTUAL SHIPMENTS. AGRICULTURE ASSIGNS PROBABLY UNIT PRICES FOR EACH COMMODITY.

WHEAT - 166,205 TONS (\$29.8 MILLION)

CORN - 106,503 TONS (\$8.8 MILLION)

SOYBEANS - 49,682 TONS (\$12.0 MILLION)

SUCH TRANSHIPMENTS ARE CARRIED IN U.S. STATISTICS AS GOING TO "UNIDENTIFIED DESTINATIONS." THEY ARE NOT INCLUDED IN CENSUS BUREAU DATA ON U.S. EXPORTS TO THE PRC.

4. THE TRANSHIPMENTS DISCUSSED IN PARA. 3 ARE ALSO NOT INCLUDED IN CANADIAN-PRC TRADE. THUS, ESTIMATES OF TOTAL PRC IMPORTS SHOULD INCLUDE AN EXTRA \$50.6 MILLION IN ADDITION TO U.S. AND CANADIAN EXPORTS.

5. INSPECTIONS FOR MARCH (THRU MARCH 15) SHIPMENTS OF WHEAT AND SOYBEANS SEEM TO INDICATE NOTABLE DECLINES IN LATE FEBRUARY, EARLY MARCH SHIPMENTS. ONLY TWO MILLION BUSHELS WERE INSPECTED FOR SHIPMENT IN THREE WEEKS ENDING MARCH 15.

6. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER THERE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE IN THE OUTSTANDING EXPORT SALES (REPORTED TO THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT) OF COTTON, WHEAT, SOYBEANS AND CORN FOR FISCAL YEAR 1974-75. KISSINGER

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